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Date: May 17, 2001

By: *Kay L. Gaviglio*
Kay L. Gaviglio

PATENT
Docket No. GC538-2

16/B

J.G.J

5/29/01

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of)
M. Boston et al.) Group Art Unit: 1652
Serial No.: 09/470,168) Examiner: E. Slobodyansky, PH.D.
Filed: December 22, 1999)
For: METHOD FOR PRODUCING ASCORBIC)
ACID INTERMEDIATES)

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111

Assistant Director of Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated December 18, 2000, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the above-identified application in view of the present amendment and remarks. This response is considered timely. A petition for a two-month extension of time, until May 18, 2001, accompanies this communication.

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace Example II with the following clean copy of the amended section. A marked-up version is attached hereto.

- Example II

Example II describes the method for producing a host cell having a mutation in the naturally occurring 2-keto-D-gluconate dehydrogenase (E3).